

II. Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-25 and 50-73 are pending, with Claims 1, 50, and 71 being independent. Claims 26-49 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications for the subject matter of these withdrawn claims.

The undersigned and Applicants' Canadian representative, Mr. Omar Nassif, would like to thank Examiner Vo for the cordial and productive interview of June 14, 2004.

The Examiner's helpful comments and suggestions were instrumental in preparing this response.

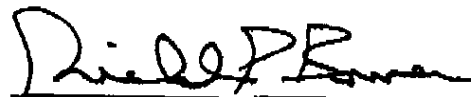
As discussed at the interview, Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 50 and 71 to clarify that the open channel has a first section, a second section, and a third section disposed serially along the longitudinal axis, the second section: (i) having a narrower width than the first and second sections when measured in a direction orthogonal to the longitudinal axis; and (ii) having disposed in a portion thereof a male or a female portion of a releasably engageable male-female trim cover attachment system. Applicants submit that all amendments presented

herein are being made for reasons of clarity with respect to the specification in drawings (e.g., see the embodiment depicted in Fig. 10), and not for reasons relating to statutory requirements for patentability. It is believed that no new subject matter has been added by the amendments submitted herein.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance, and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 625-3500. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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